

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SPC-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

NSC-10 SS-20 STR-08 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 L-03 H-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1077

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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SUBJECT: OECD XCSS EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ABOUT POSTPONEMENT
OF U.S. TRADE BILL AND U.S. RESPONSE

REF: STATE 220647

1. SUMMARY. AT NOV 9 MEETING, SEVERAL XCSS DELS INCLUDING EC AND JAPAN TOOK OCCASION OF XCSS DISCUSSION OF SAFEGUARDS TO EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO REQUEST DEFERRAL OF CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF TRA AND NEGATIVE EFFECTS THIS COULD HAVE ON MOMENTUM ESTABLISHED AT TOKYO MINISTERIAL AND PROGRESS IN MTN. AMBASSADOR EBERLE EXPLAINED REASONS FOR PRESIDENT'S DECISION AND EMPHASIZED THAT IT DID NOT ALTER FIRM U.S. COMMITMENT TO MTN NOR SHOULD IT PREVENT PREPARATORY WORK TO BE CARRIED FORWARD. END SUMMARY.

2. SEVERAL DELS AT NOV. 9 XCSS MEETING TOOK OCCASION OF DISCUSSION OF SAFEGUARDS TO EXPRESS SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT NEGATIVE EFFECT PRESIDENTIAL DECISION TO DEFER CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF TRA WOULD HAVE ON MOMENTUM ESTABLISHED BY TOKYO MINISTERIAL AND PROGRESS IN MTN. SPEAKING AS REPRESENTATIVE OF HOST COUNTRY OF TOKYO GATT MINISTERIAL, JAPANESE DEL (TSURUMI) EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING MTN SINCE PROMISING EXPRESSIONS OF POLITICAL COMMITMENT AND HIGH HOPES FOR PROGRESS REGISTERED AT TOKYO MINISTERIAL. TSURUMI SINGLED OUT LACK OF PROGRESS AT FIRST TNC MEETING AND ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION TO ADVISE CONGRESS TO DEFER CONSIDERATION OF TRA. TSURUMI APPRECIATED REASONS FOR ADMINISTRATION DECISION BUT EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN OF GOJ THAT MOMENTUM ESTABLISHED AT TOKYO WAS BEING LOST. HE APPEALED TO DELS TO TRY TO MAINTAIN FORWARD MOVEMENT AND THOUGHT XCSS DISCUSSIONS COULD HELP. CHAIRMAN (JOLLES OF SWITZERLAND) SAID TSURUMI CONCERNS
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WERE SHARED BY MANY DELS AND CHARACTERIZED PRESIDENT'S DECISION AS EVENT OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO WORLD ECONOMY. EC DEL (STAKHOVITCH) AND SEVERAL OTHER ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH TSURUMI'S EXPRESSION OF CONCERN. DRAWING FROM REFTTEL, AMB. EBERLE RESPONDED ALONG FOLLOWING LINES. HE EMPHASIZED THAT PRESIDENT'S ACTION WAS TAKEN WITH GREAT RELUCTANCE AND REAFFIRMED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO REGARD TRA AS ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN LARGER PROCESS OF CREATING A NEW

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM SUITABLE FOR CHALLENGES AND
OPPORTUNITIES OF COMING DECADE. PRESIDENT FELT COMPELLED
TO REQUEST THAT TRA BE SET ASIDE TEMPORARILY AT THIS TIME
SINCE SUCCESS OF INTENSIVE AND DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING
TOWARD A DURABLE PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST COULD BE
JEOPARDIZED BY DEBATE OVER MFN TITLE. THE IMPORTANCE OF
ESTABLISHING A DURABLE PEACE WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY ALL.
MEANWHILE EBERLE ENCOURAGED DELS TO DO ALL THEY COULD TO HELP
KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM ESTABLISHED AT TOKYO AND TO REEXAMINE
DIFFICULTIES WHICH CAUSED PROCEDURAL HOLD-UP AT TNC WITH
VIEW TO OVERCOMING THEM AND GETTING IMPORTANT WORK STARTED
IN GENEVA.CASEY

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